

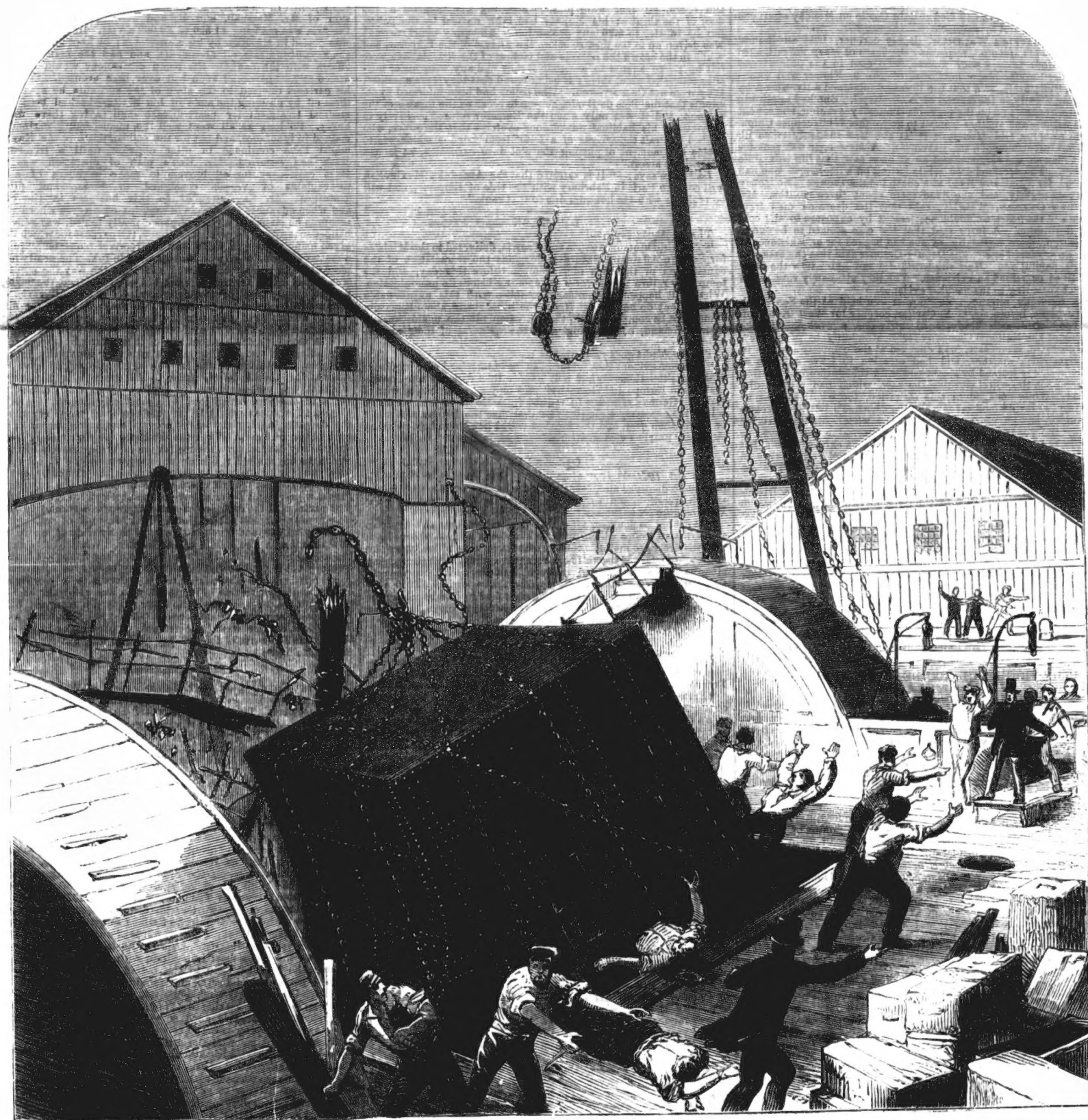
John Dickson 313 Strand
**PENNY ILLUSTRATED
WEEKLY NEWS.**



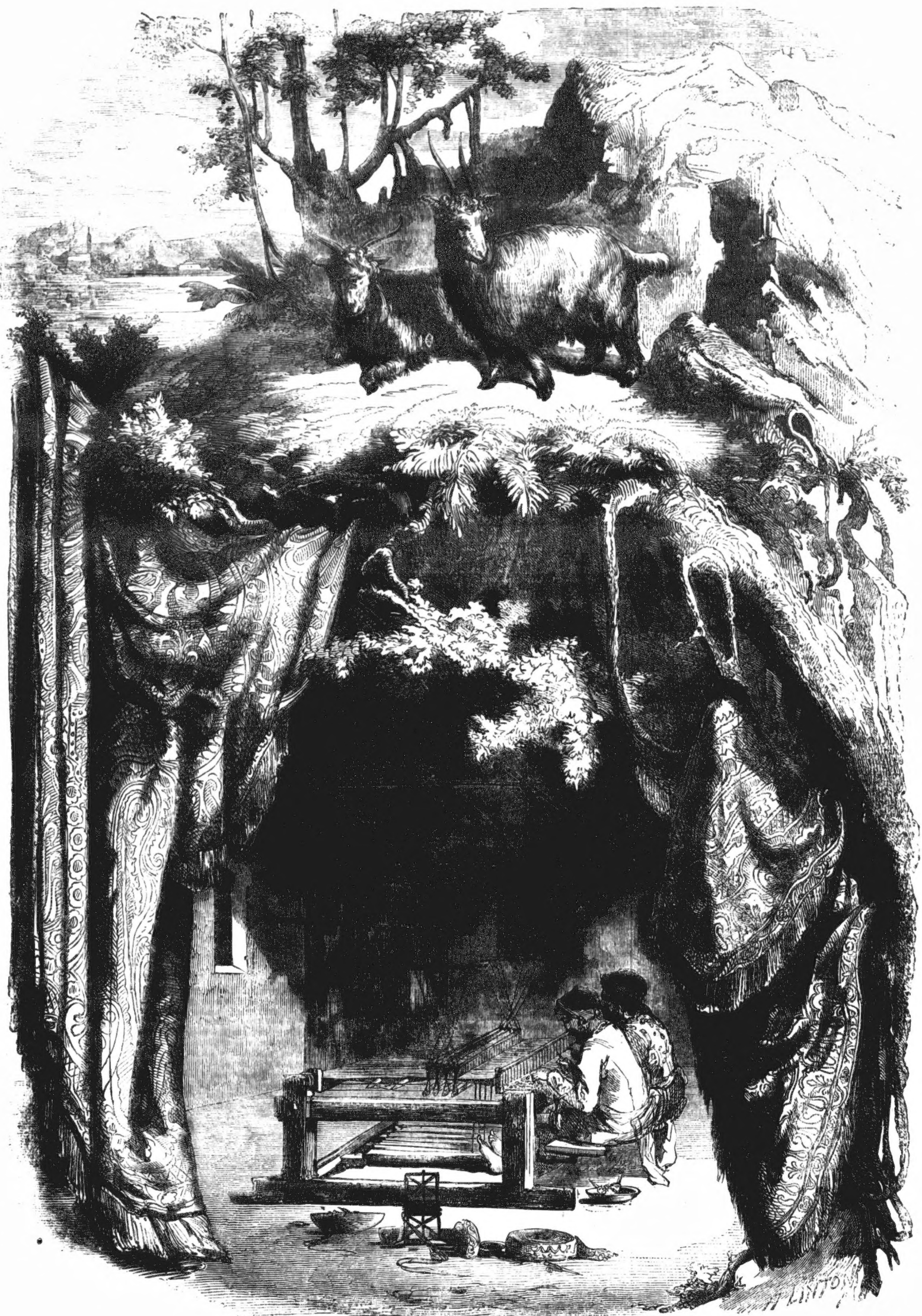
No. 32.—VOL. I. NEW SERIES.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1864.

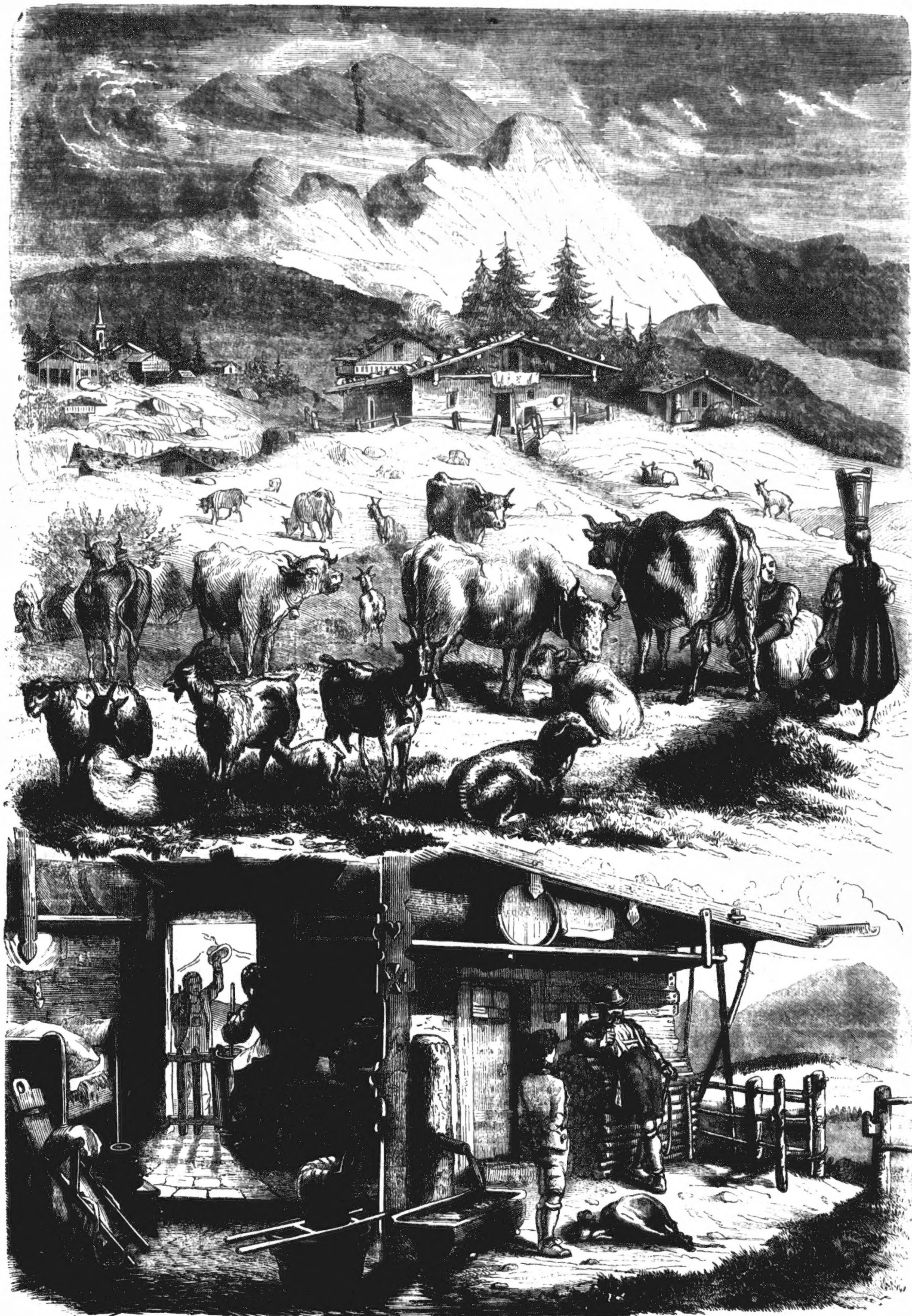
ONE PENNY.



THE FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT AT WOOLWICH DOCKYARD.



THE MANUFACTURE OF CASHMERE SHAWLS. (See page 502.)



THE ALPS AND THEIR INHABITANTS. (See page 502.)

MR. W. H. WEISS.

Mr. Weiss, whose portrait we have much pleasure in presenting to our readers this week, was born in Liverpool. At an early age he evinced a decided taste for the musical profession, and his father (of the eminent firm of Yanewitz and Weiss), an artist of no mean celebrity, placed him under Charles Smith, the well-known composer of "The Battle of Hohenlinden," and "O, Softly Sleep, my Baby Boy," and from whom he received his first rudiments in the art of singing. He likewise took lessons in harmony under Mr. Richard Sharp, of Liverpool. When he was sufficiently advanced under these masters, he went to London and studied under Sir George Smart. His next master was Mr. M. W. Balfe, with whom he resided in Paris for a considerable period. On his return to London he further studied harmony under Mr. Charles Lucas, the principal in the Royal Academy of Music. Mr. Weiss made his first appearance on the stage at the Princess's Theatre, on the 27th of December, 1842, in the part of Count Rodolpho, in the "Sonnambula," with Madame Eugénie Garcia (sister-in-law of Malibran and Viardot Garcia), as Amina, and Templeton as Elvino. Mr. Weiss at once produced a marked impression. He performed successively in "I Puritani," "Lucia di Lammermoor," "Tancrède," &c., &c. In the following year he made a great success in the concert given to "Sphor," at the several concerts given in London during the season, and also in the provinces. His engagement at the Princess's continued during 1843 and 1844. In the latter end of 1844 he was engaged at Drury Lane, where he sustained his original primo basso part in Balfe's opera of "The Daughter of St. Mark." From this time his fame became established on the stage. Since then, he has, however, been as great a favourite at the festivals and concerts which have been given throughout the kingdom. No festival can be said to be complete unless our English bass is present. His performance of the arduous music of "Elijah" is considered to have no equal; and his rendering of Handel's music may be



MR. W. H. WEISS.

reckoned second to none. Mr. Weiss has often received her Majesty's commands to sing at Windsor Castle, and at Buckingham Palace, in conjunction with our first English vocalists, and also with the most distinguished Italian and German artists, he has contributed to the enjoyment of her Majesty and her late lamented Consort. Mr. Weiss has sustained the principal bass parts at the Royal English Opera during the last and present seasons. It is not, however, alone as a singer that Mr. Weiss has gained his present high reputation; as a composer, he is also held in high esteem. He has written an unpublished opera, from which selections have occasionally been given in the concert room, and of which, as a work of art, report speaks highly. He has likewise composed several sacred and secular pieces, and many very popular songs. The world-wide popularity of his "Village Blacksmith" is too well known to require repetition; suffice it to say, that it is as deservedly popular in the United States and the colonies as it is in this country. We believe we are correct in stating that Mr. Weiss enjoys quite as high a reputation amongst all the members of the profession as he does with the public at large.

CHARGE AGAINST A CONGREGATION.—On Sunday week the minister of a large congregation in Dundee was interrupted in the course of his forenoon sermon by the repeated coughing of his auditors. Pausing in the midst of his observations, he addressed his congregation to the following effect:—"You go about the streets at the New-year time—you get drunk, and get cold, then you come here and cough—cough like a park of artillery. I think I must give you a vacation of six weeks, that you may have time to get sober and to regain your health again." He thereafter went on with his discourse, which was concluded amid much greater quiet than it had been begun; but, just as the congregation were dismissing, an indignant seat-holder in the gallery rose up and loudly declared that the remarks of the pastor were nothing less than an insult to the whole congregation.—*Dundee Courier.*



THE NURSE PRESENTING THE ROYAL BABE TO THE DOMESTICS AT FROGMORE HOUSE.



HUNTING SKETCHES.—NO. VI. (See page 502.)

